

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yutaka YAMAGATA et al.

Group Art Unit:-1743

Application No.: 09/674,304

Docket No.: 107734

2 5 2002

Filed: August 6, 200

For:

LIQUID TREATING EQUIPMENT INCLUDING A STORAGE VESSEL AND A

DISCHARGE VESSE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

NOV 2 6 2002 TC 1700

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- $\boxtimes$ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- $\boxtimes$ The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information.
- $\bowtie$ An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel S. Armstrong Registration No. 36,430

JAO: JSA/jag

Date: November 25, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, Virginia 22320 Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE **AUTHORIZATION** Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461 NOV 2 5 2002 4

| Sheet | 1 | of 1 |  |
|-------|---|------|--|
|-------|---|------|--|

| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |                          |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>107734           |                                     |      | APPLICATION NO.<br>09/674,304 |              |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
| (Use several sheets if necessary)   |                          |            | APPLICANT(S) Yutaka YAMAGATA et al. |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            | FILING DATE August 6, 2001          |                                     |      | GROUP<br>1743                 |              |  |  |  |  |
|   | U.S. I                   | PATEN      | T DOCU                              | MENTS                               | ···· |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   | DOCUMENT NUMBER          | DA         | ATE                                 | NAME                                |      | CLASS                         | SUB<br>CLASS |  |  |  |  |
|   | 5,482,368                | 01/09/1996 |                                     | NAKAMURA et al.                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   | 5,782,609                | 07/21/1998 |                                     | IKEMOTO et al.                      |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               | . 4          |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
| , ', '  |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   | FOREIG                   | N PAT      | ENT DO                              | CUMENTS                             |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   | DOCUMENT NUMBER          | DA         | ATE                                 | COUNTRY                             |      | CLASS                         | SUB<br>CLASS |  |  |  |  |
|   | JP A 8-101099 w/abstract | 04/16/     | 1996                                | JAPAN                               |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   | OTHER DOCUMENTS (Incl    | luding .   | Author,                             | Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     | _    |                               | ·   \        |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               | IVEC         |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          | _          |                                     |                                     |      | NOV 26                        | 2002         |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            | ·                                   | <u>.</u>                            |      | C 1                           | 70U          |  |  |  |  |
|   | NOV 2 6 2002<br>TC 170U  |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
|   |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
| EXAMINER  | EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |                          |            |                                     |                                     |      |                               |              |  |  |  |  |

Date: November 25, 2002